an instance. On the 23rd February, I had to go to Cochin to attend a meeting. The 10 O'clock flight left at 3 O'clock and we were served lunch neither here nor in the plane. Somehow the Minister was also available there. He came there and he was surrounded at the airport by the passengers who were stuck up there. No lunh was provided there. Therefore, Sir, I would like to know whether these common amenities.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Not relevant. Shri Ashwani Kumar.

SHRI P. N. SUKUL : Sir, I have not completed. I have just started.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your question is not relevant. (*Interruption*) Shri Ashwani Kumar.

श्री अश्विनी कमार माननीय सभापति महोदय, अभी जो पेट्रोलियम के दामों में बढोतरी हुई है उसके बाद इंडियन एयरलाइन्स ने 10 परसेंट सरचार्ज बढाने का निर्णय किया है और जब यह घोषणा की जा रही है कि एयर इंडिया के ऊपर हम नहीं बढा रहे हैं तो वास्तव में एयर इंडिया जितना पेट्रोल खरीदता है उसमें से जो विदेशों से खरीदता है वह हिन्दुस्तान से सस्ता पडता है और एयर इंडिया के बहुत से लासेज इसलिये हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान में जो पेट्रोल खरीदना पड़ता है वह विदेशों से बहुत मंहगा खरीदना पड़ता है। जब मन्त्री महोदय यह कहते हैं कि हम एयर इंडिया पर नहीं बढा रहे हैं तो यह कोई बहुत बडी कृपा नहीं हैं। मैं इतना ही जानना चाहूंगा कि यह जो भिन्न-भिन्न प्रकार के सरचार्ज बढाते हैं तो कैलकुलेशन से बढ़ाते हैं, आप सीधे फेयर बढ़ा कर उसके रुपये, आने पैसे क्यों नही हटा देते हैं ? क्योंकि 4, 6 का जो कैलकुलेशन होता है उसमें प्रोब्लम होती है। सीधे कहिये कि 560 से 600 रुपये कर दिया। इसमें करने में कोई आपत्ति नहीं हैं। दूसरा प्रश्न यह है कि जब आप कहते हैं कि आपकी एफिशिएंसी है और आप एफिशिएंसी के आधार पर चल रहे हैं तो यह जो थोड़ा सा इन्क्रीज हुआ है तो क्या इसको आप अपनी एफिशियन्सी के साथ एब्जोर्ब करने के लिये तैयार नहीं हैं ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Sir, I have already answered this question.

श्री शमीम अहमद सिद्दीकी : मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं कि आप जो इंडियन एयर लाइन्स के अन्दर किराया बढ़ा रहे हैं इससे आम जनता के ऊपर कितना असर पड़ेगा इसको जरा तफसील में बता दें ?

श्री जगदीश टाइटलर : : दो परसेंट आम जनता पर असर पड़ेगा।

SHRI S.W. DHABE : Sir, the airlines is a transport organisation which is based on the principle of service. If the hon. Minister thinks that every price hike in the case of fuel gives him a right to increase the fares, he is not correct. This has been held to be so by the Gujarat High Court. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the will also consider the question of increasing and improving the passenger amenities. In the planes, even magazines are not available in the evening services. The hon. Minister should not think that he has only to increase the passenger fares because of the hike in the fuel price and he need not bother about the passenger amenities.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is asking, when you have raised the fares, will you also increase the facilities.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : We are already looking into this.

Director-General of the Sports Authority of India

*246. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT :

SHRI SURESH KALMADI:†

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the present Director-General of the Sports Authority of India was reprimanded in the past by Government;

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Suresh Kalmadi.

(b) if so, what are the reasons for granting him extension of his tenure; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Government propose to merge the Society for National Institute of Physical Education and Sports with the Sports Authority of India and give greater responsibility to the present Director-General

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) He has been continued until further orders beyond 31st January, 1986 in view of his experience in the Sports Authority of India.

(c) No such arrangement has been worked out.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Sir, the Director-General of the Sports Authority of India is Gen. Narendra Singh. He is a very nice person. He has served the Army well.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Kalmadi you put the question. You do not give the description of the person.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Sir, what is important is that what has been his performance in the last three years as Director-General of the Sports Authority of India. Why is the Government persisting with retired people when there are a lot of younger people, younger talent, available in the country today. The Sports Authority of India in the last three years, has done nothing, except holding some big jamborees in Delhi. It has not gone to the rural areas. It has not gone to the tribal areas. You, in your answer, have said that the Director-General has been reprimanded earlier by the Government. In view of this. I would like to know, why is the Government continuing him and what did they reprimand him for ?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, it so happened that in one case, he agreed to the visit of a football team from England, without the matter being taken up with the Government and without the Government having cleared it. This was the thing on which warning was given. On the whole, his work has been satisfactory. We are now looking for a good replacement. To get people like Mr. Suresh Kalmadi is not very easy. So the moment we find a replacement, necessary action will be taken. He is just being continued.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI : I am not available Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That obvious.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI : The budget for the Sports Authority of India is Rs. 20 crores. Unfortunately, the budget for the National Federations is just about Rs. 20,000 per year which is very poor. As I mentioned the Sports Authority of India in the last few years has been organising jamborees; it organised a talent context sometime back where crores of rupees were spent. The Sports Authority of India has neither the infrastructure to organise jamborees; nor other things. When National Federations are there. Why are not the National Federations used more? They have got the infrastructure; they have even been to rural areas. But you are giving money, Rs. 20 crores to the Sports Authority of India and giving no money to National Federations, which, in my opinion, is absolutely lopsided development of sports. I would like to know whether the Government will have a re-thinking on this position and give more money to the Federations. Also, I would like to know if any time limit has been given in granting extension to the present Director General.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : For the present, we have continued

him until further orders. As I said we are looking for a replacement. Also, we are looking into the entire question of sports organisations in the country. I cannot say anything at the moment by way of a commitment because the matter is still under examination.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : The Minister in his written answer has stated that 'until further orders ....' and '31st January...' and '...in view of his experience in the Sports Authority of India...' which gives the impression that he has been continued because of his experience. But while answering the supplementary, he stated that they are looking out for a replacement. I would like to ask the Minister as to what is the exact reason for continuing the present incumbent. Is it because of his experience that he continues or is it because he continues till they find another person ?

SHRI. P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Both are correct reasons. He has been there till 31st January. Now we want a replacement. We cannot leave the whole thing in a vaccum. We are looking for the replacement. He has been there already and in view of his experience, we are continuing him. That is the position.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : माननीय सभापति जी, भारतीय खिलाड़ी खास कर ऐथलेटिक्स की दुनिया में अभी तक कोई विशेष स्थान नहीं बना पा रहे हैं। इसलिये भारत सरकार ने यह सोचा था कि ग्रामीण अंचलों से टेलेंन्ट की खोज की जाए। लेकिन जैसा कि माननीय श्री कलमाडी जी ने कहा कि सारा पैसा केन्द्र के हाथ में हैं, प्राधिकरण के हाथ में हैं। अखिल भारतीय स्तर पर इस काम को करने के लिये यह पैसा एक ही हाथ में होने से काम नहीं चलेगा। इसलिये मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि आपने जो योजना बनाई है कि गांव-गांव से जहां पर टेलेन्ट मिल सकती है उनको सेलेक्ट करके उनसे तैयारी कराई जाए, उसके बारे में आप क्या कर रहे हैं ताकि हमारा इतना बड़ा देस ऐथलेटिक्स में भी गौरवपूर्ण स्थान प्राप्त कर सके ? क्या आपको इसकी चिन्ता हैं, आपने इस पर विचार किया है ?

श्री पी० वी० नरसिंह राव : मान्यवर, इस बारे में कई योजनायें बन चुकी हैं और बन रही हैं। हम तो चाहते हैं कि जब नई पालिसी की घोषणा होगी तो उसमें इसकी भी घोषणा करें। मैं आशा करता हूं कि उसमें इसका भी समावेश किया जाएगा कि पढ़ाई के साथ साथ खेलों को भी पूरा प्रोत्साहन दिया जाय। यह केवल किसी बड़े शहर में ही नहीं बल्कि गांव के स्तर से शुरू करके जहां पर जो भी खेलों के मामले में टैलेंट होगी उसको प्रोत्साहन दिया जाएगा। उसको परवान चढ़ा कर हमारे देश का जो स्तर है उसे ऊंचा करने की कोशिश की जाएगी, यह निश्चय में हमारी पालिसी है।

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : श्रीमन्, इसमें मेरा भी नाम था।

Sethusamudram Project

*247. SHRI L. GANESAN :
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :†

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the 'Hindu' of the 27th January, 1986 under the caption 'Sethusamudram project vital for Mangalore Port' ;

(b) whether Government have taken a final decision to include this project in the Seventh five year Plan for the benefit of Cochin, Madras, Tuticorin, Goa and Visakhapatnam ports etc; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

†The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri V. Gopalsamy.